DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 14-17, 19-23, and 25-30 are allowed. These claims

have been renumbered as claims 1-24.

2.   Claims 4, 8, and 11 have been cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with Kristina

   Kuhnert on November 17, 2008.

4.   Claims 1, 16, 23, 25-28, and 29 have been amended and claims 13, 18, and 24

have been cancelled as follows:

   1. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer implemented</u> method comprising:

   identifying components associated with a first end point in an environment;

   identifying components associated with a second end point in the environment;

   determining whether any of the identified components are associated with both

the first end point and the second end point;

   determining a path strength for each path between the first end point and the

second point;

identifying relationships between the first end point, the second end point, and any components associated with both the first end point and the second end point;

displaying the relationships by, in part, displaying a social context associated with the first end point and a second context associated with the second end point; and

displaying associated information in response to a user's identification of either the first end point or the second end point;

displaying a common component associated with the first end point and the second end point;

displaying at least one link between the common component and the first end point; and

displaying at least one link between the common component and the second end point.

13. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:

displaying a first end point;

displaying components associated with the first end point;

displaying a second end point;

displaying components associated with the second end point;

displaying a common component associated with the first end point and the second end point;

displaying a link between the common component and the first end point;

displaying a link between the common component and the second end point;

determining a path strength associated with the common component by, at least in part;

determining a first link strength for the link between the common component and the first end point;

determining a second link strength for the link between the common component and the second end point; and

calculating the path strength between the first endpoint and the second endpoint based at least in part on multiplying the first link strength and the second link strength;

displaying a second common component associated with the first end point and the second end point;

displaying a link between the second common component and the first end point; and

displaying a link between the second common component and the second end point.

18. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to:

display a first end point in a social network and a social context associated with the first end point;

display a second end point in a social network and a social context associated with the second end point;

identify a common component associated with the first end point and the second end point;

display the common component associated with the first end point and the second end point;

display a link between the common component and the first end point;

display a link between the common component and the second end point;

calculating the path strength between the first endpoint and the second endpoint based at least in part on multiplying the first link strength and the second link strength; and

displaying associate information in response to a user's identification of either a first end point or a second end point;

wherein the one or more processors further determine a path strength associated with the common component and prevent display of the common component if the path strength is below a threshold.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable <u>storage</u> media as recited in claim 23 wherein the one or more processors further display a second link between the common component and the first end point.

26. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable <u>storage</u> media as recited in claim 23 wherein the one or more processors further display a second link between the common component and the first end point and display a second link between the common component and the second end point.

27. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable <u>storage</u> media as recited in claim 23 wherein the one or more processors further identify a second common component associated with the first end point and the second end point.

28. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable <u>storage</u> media as recited in claim 23 wherein the one or more processors further display the second common component associated with the first end point and the second end point.

29. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim [4] <u>1</u>, wherein the path strength is based at least in part on one or more link strengths, wherein individual link strengths are associated with a link between one or both of:

the first end point and an identified component associated with both the first end point and the second end point; or

the second end point and an identified component associated with both the first

end point and the second end point.

5.   The Specification has been amended as follows:

In the Specification dated September 25, 2006, on line 5, after "Serial No. 10/164,898,"

,Patent No. 7167910, has been inserted.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6.   The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject

matter:

         The prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art

at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements

including "determining a path strength for each path between the first end point and the

second point; identifying relationships between the first end point, the second end point,

and any components associated with both the first end point and the second end point;

displaying the relationships by, in part, displaying a social context associated with the

first end point and a second context associated with the second end point; and

displaying associated information in response to a user's identification of either the first

end point or the second end point; displaying a common component associated with the

first end point and the second end point" as recited in independent claim 1.

         As per claim 16, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily

skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of

claimed elements including "calculating the path strength between the first endpoint and the second endpoint based at least in part on multiplying the first link strength and the second link strength".

As per claim 23, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including "wherein the one or more processors further determine a path strength associated with the common component and prevent display of the common component if the path strength is below a threshold".

The remaining claims, 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19-22, and 24-30, are dependent claims, thus these claims are patently distinct over the art of record for at least the above reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Name Of Contact

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham

can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where

this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for

"INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal

paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Cheryl   Lewis/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2167
November 18, 2008